

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 31-53 and 58-63 are pending in this application, with claims 31, 61, 62, and 63 being the only independent claims. Claims 31, 44, and 60 are amended and claims 61, 62, 63 are added. Claims 43 and 54-57 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 33, 36, 38, 43-47, 49, and 60 were found to contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In view of the allowable subject matter and to expedite allowance of the application, the limitations of claim 43 are incorporated in independent claim 31. In addition, new claims 61, 62, and 63 correspond to claims 33, 36, and 49 written in independent form. Accordingly, independent claims 31, 61, 62, and 63 are now allowable.

Dependent claims 32-53 and 58-60 are allowable for the same reasons as is independent claim 31, as well as for the additional recitations contained therein.

Please charge our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412 in the amount \$110.00 in payment for the addition of one new independent claim in excess of three.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, suggestions, or objections, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned in order to resolve any outstanding issues.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any additional fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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